REMARKS

By way of the foregoing claim amendments, minor changes have been incorporated into the claims to delete multiple dependencies, change the claim wording to avoid the "characterized in that" European style of language and to present the claims in a manner that more closely corresponds to U.S. practice.

Early and favorable consideration with respect to this application is respectfully requested.

Should any questions arise in connection with this application, the undersigned respectfully requests that he be contacted at the number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

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1. (Amended) Method of structuring surfaces of micro-mechanical and/or micro-optical components and/or functional elements [consisting] of glass-type materials, [with application of the following steps of operation] comprising:

[- providing a first substrate; (2),]

[-] structuring at least one surface of [said] a first substrate in order to obtain recesses [(4)] on the at least one surface[,];

[- providing a second substrate of glass-type material; (3),]

[-] joining said first substrate to [said] a second substrate of glass-type material, with the structured surface of said first substrate being joined to a surface of said [glass-type] second substrate of glass-type material in an at least partly overlapping relationship[,];

[-] annealing the joined first and second substrates [so bonded] in such a way that said glass-type material will flow into the recesses of said structured surface of said first substrate, structuring [hence that] a side of said second substrate which faces said first substrate[,]; and

[-] separating said second substrate from said first substrate.

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2. (Amended) Method of structuring surfaces of micro-mechanical and/or micro-optical components and/or functional elements [consisting] of glass-type materials, with application of the following steps of operation comprising:

[- providing a first substrate; (2),]

[-] structuring at least one surface of [said] a first substrate in order to obtain recesses [(4)] on the at least one surface[,];

[- providing a second substrate of glass-type material; (3),]

[-] joining said first substrate to [said] a second substrate of glass-type material, with the structured surface of said first substrate being joined to a surface of said glass-type second substrate in an at least partly overlapping relationship[,]; and

[-] annealing the joined first and second substrates [so bonded] in such a way that said glass-type material will flow into the recesses of said structured surface of said first substrate, structuring [hence that] a side of said second substrate which is turned away from said first substrate.

3. (Amended) Method of structuring surfaces of micro-mechanical and/or micro-optical components and/or functional elements consisting of glass-type materials, [with application of the following steps of operation] comprising:

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[- providing a first substrate; (2),]

[-] structuring at least one surface of said first substrate in order to obtain recesses [(4)] on the at least one surface[,];

[- providing a second substrate of glass-type material; (3),]

[-] joining said first substrate to [said] a second substrate of glass-type material, with the structured surface of said first substrate being joined to a surface of said glass-type second substrate in an at least partly overlapping relationship and with a gaseous medium being introduced into said recesses, which expands when heated[,];

[-] annealing the joined first and second substrates [so bonded] in such a way that due to the expansion of said gaseous medium within said recesses in said first substrate a local displacement of said glass-type material takes place, so that [the] a side of said second substrate [will be structured,] which faces said first substrate[,] is structured; and

[-] separating said second substrate from said first substrate.

4. (Amended) Method according to Claim 2,

[**characterised** in that] wherein said second substrate is separated from said first substrate.

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5. (Amended) Method according to Claim 1, [3 or 4, **characterised** in that the separation of] wherein said second substrate is separated from said first substrate [is realised] by removal of said first substrate by etching.

6. (Amended) Method according to [any of the Claims] Claim 1, [3 to 5, **characterised** in that] wherein the separation of said second substrate from said first substrate is [realised] produced by providing a parting layer between said first and second substrates[,] that is applied on said structured surface while maintaining the structure prior to joining both substrates and that is configured as sacrificial layer that will be destroyed by thermal and/or chemical action and permits a separation of both substrates from each other.

7. (Amended) Method according to Claim 6, [**characterized** in that] wherein a metal layer is employed as the parting layer, [whose] the metal layer having a melting point [is] below the melting points of said first and second substrates.

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8. (Amended) Method according to Claim 6,

[**characterised** in that] wherein an [oxidisable] oxidizable layer is used as the parting layer, [which undergoes] the oxidizable layer undergoing a chemical reaction when oxygen and/or thermal energy is supplied.

9. (Amended) Method according to Claim 6,

[**characterised** in that] wherein a carbon layer, a diamond layer, a diamond-type layer or SiC is used as the parting layer.

10. (Amended) Method according to [any of the Claims] Claim 1 [to 9], [**characterised** in that] wherein the structured surface of said first substrate presents the recesses having structure widths B while said second substrate presents a thickness D, and that the following approximate relationship applies:

$$B \geq 0.1 \cdot D.$$

11. (Amended) Method according to [any of The Claims] Claim 1 [to 9], [**characterised** in that] wherein said first substrate is a semiconductor substrate [ands/or] and/or [that] said glass-type material is a borosilicate glass.

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12. (Amended) Method according to Claim [10] 11, [**characterised** in that] wherein said semiconductor substrate is a silicon substrate and/or that said borosilicate glass is Pyrex® glass.

13. (Amended) Method according to [any of the Claims] Claim 1 [to 12], [**characterised** in that] wherein the [step of] joining of said first substrate to said second substrate of glass-type material is carried out by anodic bonding.

14. (Amended) Method according to [any of the Claims] Claim 1, [2, or 4 to 13, **characterised** in that] wherein a negative pressure prevailing throughout the joining process is preserved, after joining, in the recesses of the surface of said first substrate, between said first substrate and said second substrate of glass-type material.

15. (Amended) Method according to [any of the Claims] Claim 1 [to 13], [**characterised** in that] wherein an overpressure acts upon the surface of said second substrate of glass-type material[,] which is turned away from said first substrate[,] throughout the annealing [process].

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16. (Amended) Method according to [any of the Claims] Claim 1, [2 or 4 to 15, **characterised** in that] wherein the annealing process is carried out by controlling [the] temperature and [the] period in such a way that the inflow of said glass-type material into the recesses of said first substrate is stopped at a desired depth of inflow, without the [in-flown] glass-type material contacting [the] a bottom of said recesses.

17. (Amended) Method according to Claim [15 or] 16, [**characterised** in that] wherein at least one of the pressure during the annealing, [and/or] the temperature of the annealing [and/or] and the period of the annealing [process] are [so] selected that a relief moulding of the structured surface of said first substrate will be produced on the surface of said second substrate of glass-type material.

18. (Amended) Method according to [at least one of the Claims] Claim 1 [to 17], [**characterised** in that] wherein one surface of said glass substrate is planished by grinding and/or polishing after annealing or after removal of said first substrate by etching.

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19. (Amended) Method according to [any of the Claims] Claim 1, [3 to 18, **characterised** in that] wherein a third substrate is evenly applied on a side of said second substrate[,] which is turned away from said first substrate[,] prior to the annealing[.] [process.]

20. (Amended) Method according to Claim 19, [**characterised** in that] wherein said third substrate is a semiconductor substrate[, preferably in the form of a silicon substrate.]

21. (Amended) Method according to Claim 19 [or 20], [**characterised** in that] wherein said third substrate is removed by an etching operation after the annealing process and that a planar surface is created on [that] a side of said second substrate which is turned away from said first substrate.

22. (Amended) Micro-mechanical component adapted to be manufacture in [correspondence] accordance with [any of the Claims 2, 4 to 16, **characterised** in that] Claim 2, wherein electrodes are arranged in the recesses formed in the course of the annealing [process] in said second substrate of glass-type material on

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[that] a side of the second substrate which is turned away from said first substrate, and that said recesses are spanned by an electrically conductive resilient membrane.